

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 EB-11 CU-04 PC-04 OPR-02 RSR-01

/147 W

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R 071140 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7181

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL LAHORE

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3. THE "OUTS": UNFORTUNATELY, REPORTING OFFICER WAS UNABLE TO CONTACT PRINCIPAL SPOKESMEN OF THE "OUTS". MOST WERE ON TOUR WITH NAP PRESIDENT WALI KHAN UNTIL LATE EVENING MAY 2 AND WERE CLOSETED IN NAP COUNCIL MEETINGS ALL DAY MAY 3 AND MORNING MAY 4. MAY 2 DEPARTURE OF EX- GOVERNOR BIZENJO AND EX- CHIEF MINISTER MENGAL ON SUMMONS FROM PRESIDENT BHUTTO GENERALLY VIEWED AS INDICATION NEGOTIATIONS STILL GOING ON REGARDING POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION OF NAP IN A COALITION PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT. ONE SOURCE SAID BHUTTO HAS HAD FOR 15-20 DAYS FILE OF CHARGES AGAINST BIZENJO AND MENGAL FOR MISDEEDS (EMBEZZLEMENT) WHILE IN OFFICE. THESE CHARGES THOUGHT TO BE PRESIDENTIAL LEVERS FOR PRESSURING NAP FIGURES TO ADOPT A MORE ACCOMMODATING POSITION. SOME EXPRESS BELIEF BIZENJO WOULD BUY OFF FOR POSITION AT CENTER, BUT VIEW MENGAL AS MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEM. OFFER OF APPOINTMENT AS PROVINCIAL MINISTER MIGHT NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO MENGAL

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AND WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY CAUSE PROBLEMS WITH GOVERNOR BUGTI. IMPROBABLE AS IT SEEMS, BHUTTO MIGHT BE ABLE TO PULL OFF A COALITION WITH NAP PARTICIPATION ALTHOUGH COOPTION OF MENGAL COULD BE CLASSED AS MINOR MIRACLE.

4. PROSPECTS: PRESENT MINISTERIAL TEAM PULLING OUT ALL STOPS TO WIN CONVERTS. IF BHUTTO EFFORTS TO GORGE COALITION UNSUCCESSFUL, AND IF HE STRONGLY SUPPORTS EFFORTS HIS LOCAL AGENTS, IT POSSIBLE MAJORITY COULD BE STITCHED TOGETHER BEFORE JUNE BUDGET SESSION OF PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY, BUT ITS VIABILITY WOULD REMAIN QUESTIONABLE. PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS IN ABSENCE OF GENERAL ELECLIONS RULED OUT BY PRACTICALLY EVERYONE. IN FACT, BUGTI SUPPORTER, MIR NABI BUX ZEHRI OF ALL PAKISTAN (QAYYUM) MUSLIM LEAGUE, WHO SAID TO HAVE ADVOCATED DISSOLUTION OF PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY AND ELECTIONS, REPORTEDLY SENT PACKING OFF TO EUROPE BY BHUTTO FOR PERIOD OF TIME VARIOUSLY REPORTED FROM TWO- THREE MONTHS TO TWO YEARS FOR HIS DABBLING IN MINISTRY FORMATION COMPOUNDED BY SOME ILLEGAL BUSINESS DEALINGS REGARDING TAXES ON MINE LEASES AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE MANIPULATIONS.

5. PUSH BUT NO SHOVE: DESPITE HEAVY ATTENTION DEVOTED TO BALUCHISTAN SITUATION IN KARACHI PRESS, MASS OF INHABITANTS OF PROVINCE SEEM SINGULARLY UNCONCERNED. THE ACTIVE PLAYERS ARE GOING AT IT LIKE IT WAS A FINAL GAME IN A TIED UP WORLD SERIES (WITH HYPERACTIVITY OCCURING IN THE BULL PENS.) LOCAL POLITICAL GAMESMANSHIP WILL HAVE ITS CRASS ASPECTS AND SMALL SCALE PUSH- AND - SHOVE BETWEEN SURROGATE GROUPS-- PRO- BUGTI BALUCH VARNA AND PRO- NAP SEGMENT BALUCHISTAN STUDENTS ORGANIZATION (BSO) OR PAKHTUN ZALAMIE-- CANNOT BE RULED OUT. BUT SUCH DISTURBANCES RESULTING FROM CLASES BETWEEN SUPPORTERS OF CONTENDING PERSONALITIES WILL FALL FAR SHORT, IN TERMS OF SEVERITY AND SIGNIFICANCE, OF A DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH GOVERNMENT. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, SITUATION UNLIKELY TO DEGENERATE INTO A VIOLENT FREE- FOR - ALL AND THERE WILL PROBABLY BE WHAT IS FOR BALUCHISTAN A " NORMAL " INCIDENCE OF MINOR DISTURBANCES.
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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